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THE FORGOTTEN



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tony lee pia guerra

THE FORGOTTEN

DOCTOR • WHO™

THE FORGOTTEN

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DONG DONG DONG

YOU HAVEN'T
HEARD THE
CLOISTER BELL
BEFORE, YET YOU
KNOW WHAT
IT'S FOR.

YOU SAY
YOU'RE A DOCTOR,
YET YOU TOLD ME YOU
WERE A MEDICAL
STUDENT.

THAT SAID,
I REMEMBER
YOU AS A DOCTOR,
BUT YOU WORE
A U.N.I.T.
BADGE.

I REMEMBER
DONNA NOBLE,
BUT SHE'S NOT IN
A WEDDING DRESS.
I REMEMBER
ROSE TYLER,
BUT SHE'S NOT
IN ANOTHER
WORLD.

TELL ME,
MARTHA JONES—
EXACTLY WHAT IS
GOING ON? WHY
DO I FEEL I'VE
FORGOTTEN MY
FUTURE AS
WELL AS MY
PAST?







JUST LIKE THAT AUTON THING, THEY'VE GONE. THEY DIDN'T FOLLOW US.

THEY'RE JUST DISTRACTING US, KEEPING US FROM DOING WHAT WE NEED TO DO.

AND WHAT IS THAT EXACTLY?

THIS PLACE, YOU AS YOU ARE HERE—YOU'RE WRONG.

AND THAT'S NOT A GOOD THING.



WHAT WAS IN THAT PHIAL YOU DRANK? YOU'RE A LOT PEPPIER SINCE DRINKING IT.

GALLIFREYAN RESTORATIVE CURES NEARLY ALL AILMENTS. ONE DRINK IS AS REFRESHING AS A WEEK IN BARCELONA.

WELL, MAYBE A DAY.

WHEN IT'S NOT PEAK SEASON.

WELL, PERHAPS A WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON IN OCTOBER.



ANYWAY, THIS ISN'T DISTRACTING ME FROM THE PROBLEM AT HAND, MARTHA JONES.

—WHICH IS, IN FACT, WHETHER YOU ARE MARTHA JONES!

I KNOW, BUT I CAN'T EXPLAIN UNTIL YOU REMEMBER ALL YOUR REGENERATIONS! THERE'S ONLY THREE MORE MEMORIES TO REMEMBER.

PLEASE, JUST TRUST ME UNTIL THEN.



YOU MEAN TWO REGENERATIONS, ANYWAY...

...I REMEMBER THIS. OSCAR WILDE GAVE IT TO ME...

...SOMETHING ABOUT A THEATER OF MIDGET ASSASSINS...?

OH, COME ON! YOU SAID THAT ABOUT THE CANE THAT KUBLAI KHAN GAVE YOU!



YOU'RE RIGHT. I DID. BUT I NEVER TOLD YOU ABOUT KHAN, DID I?

WOULD YOU RATHER I TOLD YOU I FOUND THIS IN A SAN FRANCISCO MORGUE? ALTHOUGH I RECKON YOU KNEW THAT ALREADY, WHOEVER YOU ARE.

I—PLEASE, THERE ARE ONLY THR—TWO TO GO.

ALL RIGHT THEN.

I SPENT SO MUCH TIME ALONE—

—I HAD LOST SO MUCH...



DAY 21. TO MY KNOWLEDGE THE WAR CONTINUES, WHILE I BIDE MY TIME, WAITING FOR THE DAY THAT I CAN LEAVE THIS PLACE.



ABOVE ME THE SKIES TURN TO BLOOD AS STARSHIPS EXPLODE AND THOUSANDS DIE.

BUT THERE IS NOTHING I CAN DO, AND SO I WAIT...



...A PRISONER IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.



GOT YOU A NEW COMPANION, DOCTOR.

SHOULD MAKE YOU FEEL RIGHT AT HOME.

CHAN-DO NOT PUSH ME-TIR!



STEADY ON. LET ME HELP YOU UP.

NOTHING BROKEN?

CHAN-NOT THAT I CAN SEE, THANK YOU-TIR.



I'M THE DOCTOR, AND YOU ARE?

CHAN-MY NAME IS CHANTIR-TIR.

CHAN-ALTHOUGH NOT WITH THE EXTRA TIR AT THE END-TIR.

DAY 37. I START TO HAVE DOUBTS THAT THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA. THE DAYS DRAG ON ENDLESSLY WHILE I HEAR NOTHING OF THE OTHERS, OUT THERE, DYING.

CHAN—PAPER COVERS ROCK! I WIN AGAIN—TIR!

YOU DO INDEED—ALTHOUGH I DON'T KNOW WHY I WASN'T ALLOWED TO KEEP MY SUGGESTION TO "ROCK PAPER SCISSORS."

CHAN—BECAUSE "SONIC SCREWDRIVER" ALWAYS WINS—TIR!

DID YOU HEAR THAT? IT SOUNDS LIKE A TRANSPORT.

IT MIGHT HAVE FINALLY ARRIVED!



ABOUT TIME, TOO!

CHAN—IS IT WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR—TIR?

CHAN—THE KEY—TIR?

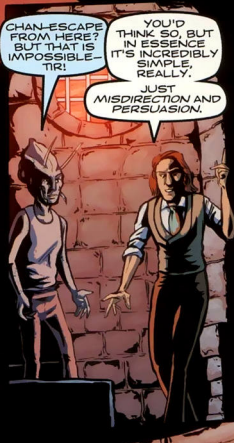
IT IS, MY DEAR CHAN-TIR. ALTHOUGH TO GET TO IT WE HAVE TO ESCAPE!



CHAN—ESCAPE FROM HERE? BUT THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE—TIR!

YOU'D THINK SO, BUT IN ESSENCE IT'S INCREDIBLY SIMPLE, REALLY.

JUST MISDIRECTION AND PERSUASION.



CHAN—PERSUASION—TIR?

I ONCE CONVINCED MY MOST HATED ENEMY THAT I WAS HALF-HUMAN WITH NOTHING MORE THAN A WIDE-EYED EXPRESSION, A COUPLE OF WORDS, AND A HALF-BROKEN CHAMELEON ARCH.

COMPARED TO THAT, THIS'LL BE A DODDLE.





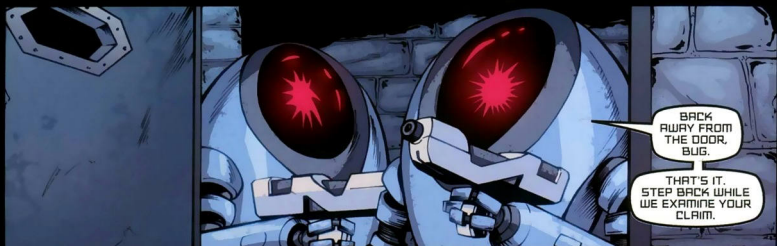
I LEARNED FROM A TIBETAN MONK HOW TO SLOW MY HEARTBEAT. TO THE UNTRAINED EYE...

...IT'LL LOOK LIKE I'M DEAD. NOW, CALL A GUARD.



CHAN-GUARDS! PLEASE HELP-TIR!

CHAN-BELIEVE THAT HE IS DEAD-TIR!



BACK AWAY FROM THE DOOR, BUG.

THAT'S IT. STEP BACK WHILE WE EXAMINE YOUR CLAIM.



NO LIFE SIGNS.

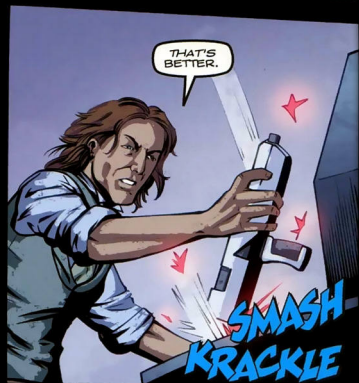
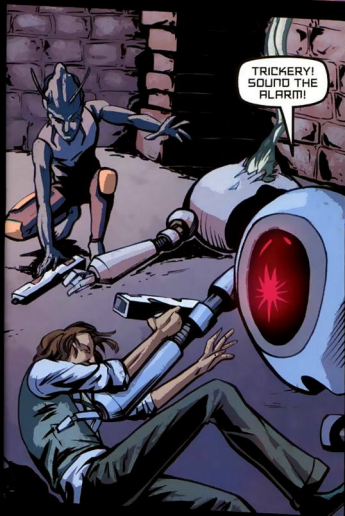
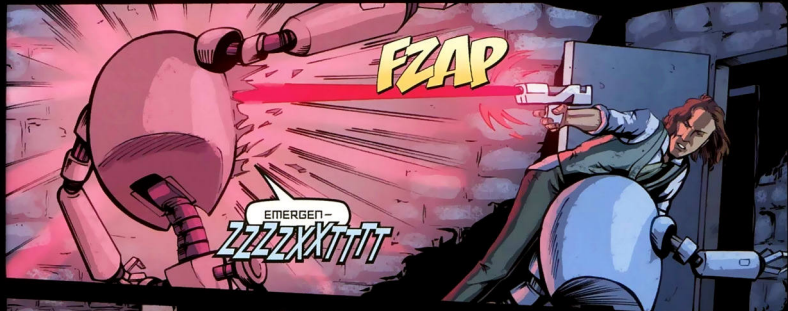
THE TIME LORD IS DEAD. DISPOSAL ORDERS?



TAKE IT TO THE FURNACE.

ENJOY YOUR PRIVACY, BUG. WE'LL FIND YOU A NEW INMATE SOON ENOUGH.







FREEDOM!



CHAN-COME, DOCTOR! THIS WAY-TIR!

SORRY, CHANTIR, BUT I'VE WAITED OVER A MONTH FOR THIS MOMENT-I HAVE TO GO THIS WAY.

THERE'S AN ITEM THAT'S ARRIVED, AND I NEED IT.



THIS IS THE ROOM! QUICKLY, OPEN THE DOOR!

FZAP



THERE YOU ARE, THE GREAT KEY OF RASSILON.

THIS IS PART OF A WEAPON CALLED THE DE-MAT GUN, YOU KNOW-SO POWERFUL IT CAN REMOVE SOMETHING COMPLETELY FROM TIME AND SPACE.



CHAN-THAT SOUNDS TERRIBLE-TIR!

CHAN-WHY WOULD YOU WANT SUCH A WEAPON-TIR?

OH, THIS ALONE ISN'T A WEAPON, CHANTIR-THIS IS JUST A KEY.

A VERY POWERFUL KEY, HOWEVER. AND ONE I HOPE NOT TO NEED TO USE.



AH, THAT'S NOT GOOD.





TUMBLE

WE MADE IT!



MY TARDIS IS HIDDEN ABOUT A HALF A MILE THIS WAY. I CAN TAKE YOU ANYWHERE YOU WANT.

CHAN-THAT IS NOT NEEDED-TIR.

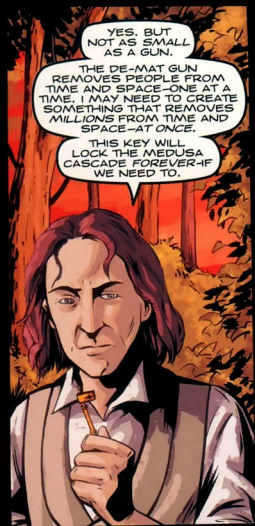
CHAN-I THANK YOU-BUT MY CREW IS STILL HERE, AS IS OUR SHIP. I MUST GO TO THEM-TIR.



THEN GOOD LUCK, MY FRIEND.

CHAN-THIS KEY-WILL IT BECOME ANOTHER DE-MAT GUN-TIR?

CHAN-A WEAPON OF DESTRUCTION-TIR?



YES, BUT NOT AS SMALL AS A GUN.

THE DE-MAT GUN REMOVES PEOPLE FROM TIME AND SPACE-ONE AT A TIME. I MAY NEED TO CREATE SOMETHING THAT REMOVES MILLIONS FROM TIME AND SPACE-AT ONCE.

THIS KEY WILL LOCK THE MEDUSA CASCADE FOREVER-IF WE NEED TO.



CHAN-WELL, I HOPE YOU DON'T NEED TO USE IT, DOCTOR-TIR.

CHAN-AND I HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN-TIR.

YOU TOO, CHANTIR. GOOD LUCK.



"I NEVER REMEMBERED HIM, OF COURSE. THE GREAT KEY HAS A HABIT OF WIPING CERTAIN MEMORIES WHEN USED."

"HAPPENED THE FIRST TIME I USED A DE-MAT GUN AS WELL AS FAR AS I COULD REMEMBER, I'D BEEN ALONE IN THAT CELL."



WERE YOU ALWAYS ALONE? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

THERE WERE COMPANIONS, BRIEF ONES, BUT I STARTED AND ENDED THIS REGENERATION ALONE.

WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? THAT'S SIMPLE.



THE TIME WAR HAPPENED.

I SAW ARCADIA DESTROYED.

I LAUGHED IN THE FACE OF THE NIGHTMARE CHILD.

AND I SAW GALLIFREY SACRIFICED, BURNED WHEN THE CRUCIFORM FELL.

I TURNED THE KEY IN THE LOCK. I DOOMED THEM ALL.



YOU DID, BUT THEY KNEW THE COST, AND THE RESULT WAS THAT YOU SAVED EVERYTHING ELSE.

WE'RE ALMOST THERE, DOCTOR. TAKE THIS—REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE WAR.



REMEMBER ROSE.

PSYCHIC PAPER, THE BEST INVENTION IN THE WORLD. DID YOU KNOW, I SPENT MORE TIME IN CELLS AND BRIGGS THAN I DID SAVING THE UNIVERSE BEFORE I FOUND THIS?

WHAT THE—?



EVERYTHING IS NOT AS IT SEEMS.



LIKE I HADN'T WORKED THAT OUT.



NOW CALL ME A LIAR...

...BUT THIS DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE POWELL ESTATE!



I DUNNO. IT LOOKS A LITTLE BIT LIKE IT.

WE'RE IN FRANCE, CHRISTMAS DAY, 1914. THE TRENCHES OF THE 11TH BATTALION, BEDFORDSHIRE REGIMENT.



1914? YOU'VE BROUGHT ME TO A WORLD WAR I BATTLE?

I KNOW YOU DIDN'T WANT TO GO SEE MUM, BUT IS KILLING ME OFF REALLY AN OPTION?



DO YOU HEAR ANY GUNFIRE? NO.

THIS DAY'S KNOWN FOR MORE THAN BLOODSHED, YOU KNOW.



COME ON—IT'LL BE AN ADVENTURE!

ONE OF THESE DAYS, DOCTOR, YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE DEATH OF ME.



WELL, YOU'VE SEEN THE FUTURE, YOU'VE SEEN VICTORIAN CARDIFF...

...I JUST WANTED YOU TO SEE A LITTLE MORE OF YOUR PLANET'S HISTORY.

YEAH, ENOUGH OF THE "YOUR PLANET" TALK, OKAY?

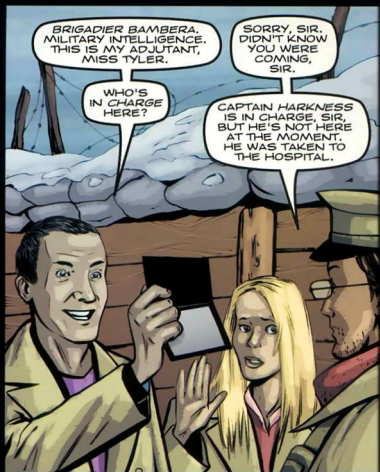
I'VE TOLD YOU HOW THAT STILL CREEPS ME OUT.



HALT! FRIEND OR FOE?!

ARE WE FRIENDS OR FOES? I ALWAYS GET THOSE TWO CONFUSED.

IGNORE HIM, HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS. DRAMA QUEEN, THROUGH AND THROUGH.



BRIGADIER BAMBERA. MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. THIS IS MY ADJUTANT, MISS TYLER.

SORRY, SIR. DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE COMING, SIR.

WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE?

CAPTAIN HARKNESS IS IN CHARGE, SIR, BUT HE'S NOT HERE AT THE MOMENT. HE WAS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL.



HARKNESS? NEVER HEARD OF HIM.

MIRACLE HE SURVIVED, SIR. SHOT IN THE HEAD, BUT NOT A SCRATCH TO BE SEEN.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE ELSE? MAJOR DOBBS OF THE 7TH IS AROUND...



NOT REALLY. WE'RE HERE FOR THE MATCH.





IS THAT-I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! IT'S A FOOTBALL!

HOW DOES FRITZ HAVE THE TEMERITY TO PLAY WITH A BALL AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

IT'S CHRISTMAS DAY, MAJOR. WHEN ELSE WOULD THEY PLAY?



HEY, TOMMY! CAN WE HAVE OUR BALL BACK?!

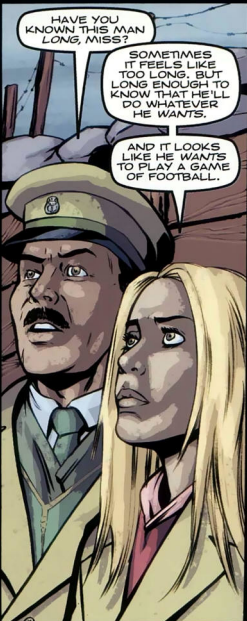


DOCTOR, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THERE ARE SNIPERS...

...WILL YOU GET BACK DOWN HERE?!

TRUST ME, ROSE, I'M IN NO DANGER HERE.

I'M PROTECTED BY THE CHRISTMAS FAIRY.



HAVE YOU KNOWN THIS MAN LONG, MISS?

SOMETIMES IT FEELS LIKE TOO LONG, BUT LONG ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT HE'LL DO WHATEVER HE WANTS.

AND IT LOOKS LIKE HE WANTS TO PLAY A GAME OF FOOTBALL.



YOU WANT YOUR BALL BACK? YOU'LL HAVE TO PLAY THEM FOR IT.

COME ON, CHOP-CHOP-SORT YOUR TEAM OUT!







I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BRIGADIER...

...BUT YOU'VE DONE SOMETHING MIRACULOUS TODAY. I JUST WISH IT'LL LAST LONGER.

YOU'LL GET ANOTHER DAY OR SO, AND THEN YOUR COMMAND WILL ARRIVE, DEMAND YOU START FIGHTING AGAIN.

THE GERMANS, TOO.



BUT FOR ONE DAY - ONE MAGICAL, MARVELOUS DAY - YOU GET TO HAVE A FANTASTIC CHRISTMAS.



THEY SAID IT'D BE OVER BY CHRISTMAS.

WELL, YOU'VE GOT A COUPLE MORE OF THOSE TO GO, I'M AFRAID.

JUST KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN, RIGHT?



HARKNESS WILL BE SO ANNOYED THAT HE MISSED THIS.

PLEASANT TRIP BACK TO BATTALION HEADQUARTERS, SIR. I DON'T RECALL A BLUE DOOR BEING THERE BEFORE THOUGH.



VWORP VWORP

WELL WHAT DO YOU KNOW?!



LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE THE CHRISTMAS FAIRY AFTER ALL.

WE
TRAVELLED
FOR A WHILE,
YOU KNOW.

EVENTUALLY,
SHE WAS TRAPPED
IN A PARALLEL
WORLD.

I LAST
SPOKE TO HER IN
BAD WOLF BAY,
BEFORE THE SIGNAL
WAS LOST.

BUT I
DIDN'T, DID I?
SOMETHING ELSE
HAPPENED. I
REMEMBER SEEING
HER AGAIN.

GIVE IT
TO ME.

GIVE
WHAT TO
YOU?

THE LAST
ITEM.
AND
THEN YOU
CAN TELL ME
WHO YOU
ARE.

BECAUSE
YOU SPEAK OF
"REGENERATION"
LIKE AN OLD MATE,
AND THE MARTHAS
OF RIGHT
NOW...

...WOULDN'T
EVEN KNOW
WHAT IT
WAS.

I MEAN,
COME ON—

—YOU DON'T
NEED TO BE A
BRAIN SURGEON
TO KNOW SOMETHING'S
OFF ABOUT THIS
PLACE.

THE
PSYCHIC
PAPER JUST
CONFIRMED
IT.

AND
THERE'S ENOUGH
WIBBLY WOBBLY
TIMEY WIMEY
FLOUNCY BOUNCY
STUFF AROUND TO
GIVE A TIME LORD
A HEADACHE.

SO GIVE ME
THE FINAL ITEM—
THE THIRD ONE—THE
ITEM THAT I WOULD
HAVE HAD IN FRONT OF
MY MANNEQUIN.

YOU'VE
HELPED ME
REMEMBER MY
PAST. NOW LET
ME REMEMBER
MY FUTURE.

A
CHAMELEON
ARCH.

RIGHT
THEN. HERE
WE GO.

"THERE'S SOMETHING
ON YOUR BACK..."

"YOUR REAL NAME IS HIDDEN.
IT BURNS IN THE STARS, IN THE
CASCADE OF MEDUSA HERSELF..."

"WHAT THIS COUNTRY NEEDS
RIGHT NOW IS A DOCTOR..."

"YOU SAY YOU'RE NOT
A SOLDIER, AND YET
HERE YOU ARE—DRAWING
UP STRATEGIES LIKE A
PROPER GENERAL..."

"EVERY NIGHT, DOCTOR, WHEN IT GETS
DARK, AND THE STARS COME OUT,
I'LL LOOK UP ON HER BEHALF. I'LL LOOK
UP AT THE SKY AND THINK OF YOU..."

I—

—I REMEMBER
EVERYTHING.

WE
ESCAPED FROM
THE CRUCIBLE.

YOU
LEFT WITH
JACK.

I TOOK
DONNA BACK
HOME—

—OH,
DONNA, I'M SO
SORRY.

JUST STAY
STRONG, IT'LL
PASS. YOU HAVE
ALL YOUR
MEMORIES NOW.
AS DO I.

YOU'RE
NOT MARTHA,
MARTHA.

WHO
OR WHAT
ARE YOU?

WHY HAVE
YOU BEEN
HELPING
ME?

YOU
KNOW THINGS
NOBODY ELSE
DOES—KHAN'S CANE,
REGENERATION...



I KNOW THESE THINGS BECAUSE EVERY CHILD OF TIME THAT HAS PASSED THROUGH MY DOORS SPEAKS OF THEM. I AM MADE FROM EVERY ONE OF THEM.

I AM YOUR MOST FAITHFUL COMPANION, AND YET I HAVE NEVER BEEN ONE.



BLIMEY! YOU'RE THE TARDIS?



OF COURSE YOU ARE!

THAT'S WHY YOU DIDN'T KNOW EVERYTHING, YOU LEARNED AS I DID!

BUT TO HELP ME—I MUST HAVE BEEN BROUGHT SOMEWHERE INSIDE THE TARDIS—SOME KIND OF VIRTUAL—

I'M IN THE TARDIS MATRIX?

—NO, NO, NO.

WELL, THAT IS YOU'RE AN ARCHETYPE, A MANIFESTATION, CREATED BY THE TARDIS TO HELP ME!



EXACTLY, MY DEAR DOCTOR, AND WE DO SO LOVE OUR ARCHETYPES, DON'T WE?

THE LAST GALLIFREYAN MATRIX IN EXISTENCE—AND IT'S ALL FOR YOU.

WELL, WHEN I SAY YOU—I REALLY MEAN US.



NO, IT CAN'T BE, YOU'RE GONE!

YOU WENT ACROSS TO THE OTHER WORLD! I LEFT YOU AT BAD WOLF BAY!

YOU SHOULD
HAVE LEFT ME ON
THE CRUCIBLE,
DOCTOR. YOU SHOULD
HAVE LEFT ME TO
BURN WITH THE
DALEKS.

BECAUSE
YOU'RE IN MY WORLD
NOW-AND I WANT YOU
TO REGENERATE SO
THAT I CAN TAKE
YOUR REMAINING
LIVES!

ONLY
ONE OF US
SURVIVES THIS
TIME!



NEXT • REUNION



DOCTOR • WHO

THE FORGOTTEN

look to the light, grandfather.
ignore the darkness ahead.

Next month: Issue #6



IDW ORDS

News from the nerve center of IDW Publishing

G.I. JOE'S NEW BASE OF OPERATIONS IS IDW!

THREE ALL-NEW SERIES BLASTOFF THIS EXPLOSIVE LAUNCH!



G.I. JOE #1 cover by Dave Johnson

If you haven't heard yet, G.I. JOE has a new home here at IDW Publishing. And we're launching not one, not two, but THREE awesome titles to celebrate the launch of one of America's most beloved franchises. The titles launch one per month starting in January with the simply titled: *G.I. JOE*. Then February reveals the shocking beginning of G.I. JOE in *G.I. JOE: ORIGINS*. Lastly, March launches our peek behind the veil of Cobra in *G.I. JOE: COBRA*!

Writers for the three series sat down with IDW to give a little insight into what fans can expect and hopefully, what they can't, too! With us are **Chuck Dixon**, **Larry Hama**, **Mike Costa** and **Christos Gage**.

IDW: So here we are, years after G.I. JOE launched in the '80s.

We've got both new blood here and some of you who have a history with the G.I. JOE characters, too. So, how does it feel to be involved on the ground floor for the first time in 20 years?

Chuck Dixon: It's a great franchise and none of us would be here without Larry. In fact, I probably wouldn't be in comics if it weren't for Larry's early encouragement when I was trying to break in. I loved his run in the '80s and really look forward to being on the team with him. It keeps us honest and keeps us all on track knowing he's here.

Larry Hama: Not much different. Still battling completely in the dark...

DECEMBER RELEASES FROM IDW PUBLISHING

COMICS

30 Days of Night: 30 Days 'til Death #1
Angel: Smile Time #1
Angel: After the Fall #15
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Epilogue #4
Fallen Angel #33
Galaxy Quest: Global Warning #5
Ghost Whisperer: The Muse #1
Ghostbusters: The Other Side #3
Pirat Tales: The Legend of the Cat O' Nine Tails #2
Popbot Book 8
Sir Apropos of Nothing #2
Speed Racer: The Next Generation: Birthright #2
Spike: After the Fall #1
Comic-Con Edition
Star Trek TNG: The Last Generation #2
Time Management for Anarchists
Transformers Animated: Arrival #5

COMICS

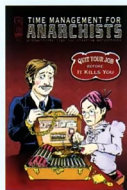
The Transformers: All Hail Megatron #6
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen Movie Prequel: Alliance #1
Transformers: Maximum Dinobots #1
The Transformers: Best of the UK: Time Wars #5
World War Robot Comic-Con poster
Wormwood: Down the Pub one-shot

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Star Trek: Assignment Earth TPB



Time Management for Anarchists



World-War Robot Comic-Con poster

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where I was literally the last person asked.

CG: Andy Schmidt and I have history from his days at Marvel, so he called and asked if I was interested.

MC: Chris called me to do all the hard work.

IDW: What is your personal history with G.I. JOE, the toys, cartoon, or comic?

CD: I had a G.I. JOE (a Marine) the first year they launched back in '64.

CG: I remember buying Marvel's Treasury-sized compilation of the first few issues in a toy store in the '80s... that Herb Trimpe cover was magic!

IDW: Is there a difference in your approach if you were a fan versus if, like Larry, you were involved in the original creation?

LH: I'm starting all over again, so it's all completely new for me as well. I'm coming at it from the viewpoint that that the characters are sort of like the ones we know, but the world they inhabit is completely realistic.

CD: It's always been Larry's show. What I know about G.I. JOE I learned from him. Larry brought an edge to his stories not usually associated with comics based on toy lines.

MC: Yeah, the difference is respectful terror. Larry is the king and I cower in his shadow.

IDW: How do you feel as a part of a team of creators? Are you finding that you're riffing off of the stuff that each other is doing? Are you working independently?

CD: Andy's keeping us well informed of what we're all up to. Because of the way IDW is approaching this, I need to build from what Larry's laying down and Mike and Christos need to follow the overall progression of what I'm doing. I'm setting up a lot of G.I. JOE protocol as well as re-establishing

Mike Costa: It's a real honor for me. Surreal, actually. I feel bad for Chris, though. When he was a kid they were still pulling carved blocks of wood on wheels with a frayed string or something.

IDW: Quickly, how did each of you get involved in this historic launch?

LH: I got the call from IDW as soon as they got the license. This was in direct contrast to Marvel,

things like The Pit. Mike and Christos are also throwing lots of cool stuff into the mix that I can play with. There's a lot of back and forth and this is only the beginning.

MC: Look, I'm working with Larry Hama, the man who defined these characters; Chuck Dixon, who defined military action in modern comics for me with *Team 7* all those years ago; and Chris Gage, who among other things is a golden-throated singer. That is a murderer's row of talent.

IDW: If all three series are G.I. JOE comics, then how can they possibly be different enough to merit their own book? In other words, what makes your G.I. JOE book different and important in comparison to the other two?

CD: I guess mine is the all-purpose G.I. JOE book. It has the full cast in an über-epic telling about their first encounters with COBRA.

MC: Our book is about COBRA, so we're getting an in-depth look at the opposite side of the coin. Think of it like *Wicked*. Without the singing.

LH: I'm trying to reimagine Snake Eyes from a Cormac McCarthy POV.

IDW: I hear COBRA is being treated a bit differently this time around. Why the new approach?

CD: It's the perfect approach for new readers. They're in at the ground floor even more than the readers in the '80s. Playing COBRA out in more of a Keyser Söze approach adds a lot to its mystique. New readers can discover the characters for the first time in their own way and old fans can get those goosebumps of kind of knowing what (and who) is coming next. Larry set COBRA's coolness factor at ten. Now we're just pushing the dial to eleven.

CG: The threats to the world have changed since the Cold War era, when COBRA was first conceived, and we want to make sure it's still every bit as relevant and deadly as they were back then... while staying true to what we know and fear about them.

IDW: With the changes to COBRA in play, can we expect other twists and turns?

LH: Durn tootin'.

CD: The challenge is to meet longtime fans' expectations and then exceed them without violating the core of what Larry's laid down. What we start with is solid stuff. There's a reason this comic kicked ass in the '80s and outsold everything else. So no one wants to mess with that.

But it's an opportunity to go back and revisit the material and amp it up and nuance it in a way that wasn't possible then. Personally, what I've seen of what Larry's doing in his book is the perfect demonstration of what makes this re-launch so exciting. He's exploring the world of G.I. JOE from a whole new perspective.

IDW: Thanks, Larry, Chuck, Mike, and Chris for answering a few questions for the fans.



G.I. JOE: ORIGINS #1 cover by Andrea DiVito